

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

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TO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA PRIORITY

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TAGS: AORG, AFIN, IAEA

SUBJECT: A/B COMITE MEETING. INSTRUCTIONS ON IAEA BUDGET
FOR 1977 AND TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

REF: (A) IAEA VIENNA 3330; (B) IAEA VIENNA 3329; (C) IAEA
VIENNA 2968; (D) IAEA VIENNA 2967; (E) IAEA VIENNA 2564

1. GENERAL. DEPT APPRECIATES MISSION'S COMPREHENSIVE BUD-
GET ANALYSES AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING US POSITIONS
TOWARDS PROPOSED 1977 BUDGET AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS
TARGET CONTAINED REFTELS. WE CONCUR THAT BUDGET CONTAINED
GOV/1780 IS GENERALLY SOUND BUT, IN VIEW OF SEVERE BUDGE-
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TARY RESTRICTIONS UNDER WHICH USG CONTINUES TO OPERATE, WE

BELIEVE AGENCY SHOULD MAINTAIN STRESS ON ECONOMY WHICH IT HAS MANIFESTED WITH NOTABLE SUCCESS OVER RECENT YEARS. WE WOULD HOPE THAT TOTAL REGULAR BUDGET ESTIMATE OF DOLS 41 MILLION MIGHT BE PARED, BY REDUCTION OF MARGINAL ACTIVITIES AND EXPENSES, TO A LEVEL CLOSER TO DOLS 40 MILLION. THIS MIGHT BE ACHIEVED BY USDEL QUESTIONING WEAK POINTS IN BUDGET PRESENTATION IDENTIFIED IN REF (D), WITH WHICH DEPT CONCURS, AND IN SEPTTEL BASED ON INTERESTED AGENCY ANALYSES. IN VIEW OF VITAL US INTEREST IN SUPPORTING INCREASE IN SAFEGUARDS PORTION OF BUDGET, DEPT CONCURS WITH MISSION RECOMMENDATION (SUMMARY REF (D)) RE APPROACH TO HANDLING

SUBJECT. WHILE NOT TAKING LEAD, USDEL SHOULD JOIN IN FORMATION OF CONSENSUS FAVORING ELIMINATION OF MARGINAL ACTIVITIES AND EXPENSES. USDEL SHOULD ACTIVELY WORK TO PROTECT THOSE PROGRAM ELEMENTS OF IMPORTANCE TO USG.

2. SAFEGUARDS. DEPT CONCURS WITH MISSION ASSESSMENT OF SAFEGUARDS PORTIONS OF BUDGET (REF (C)). USDEL AUTHORIZED TO SUPPORT.

3. MOVE TO DONAU PARK. DEPT CONCURS WITH MISSION VIEW (PARA 10 REF (E)) THAT DG'S STRATEGY TO USE 1974-1976 SURPLUS FUNDS TO FINANCE EARLY EXPENDITURES FOR MOVE TO DONAU PARK IS SOUND AND COST EFFECTIVE. USDEL THEREFORE AUTHORIZED TO SUPPORT.

4. TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS. DEPT ALSO CONCURS WITH MISSION STRATEGY FOR SETTING 1977 TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS (REF (B)). MISSION IS REQUESTED TO MEET LDC STARTING POINT WITH INITIAL RELUCTANCE TO INCREASE AMOUNT AT ALL. IF LDC'S PERSIST, MISSION AUTHORIZED TO OFFER COMPENSATE FOR INFLATION BY INCREASE OF TARGET TO DOLS 6 MILLION. COMPROMISE AT DOLS 6.25 MILLION WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO USG. SHOULD MAJORITY FAVOR HIGHER FIGURE, USDEL SHOULD STATE THAT IT MUST REFER QUESTION TO WASHINGTON AND WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER AT JUNE BOARD.

5. PROGRAM COMMENTS TO FOLLOW SEPTTEL.

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